

***Educating Ourselves about Race & Racism***

**January – March 2023**

**Monday Evenings**

**All classes are from 7-8pm via Zoom**

*For more information contact*

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**January 9**



**Oregon Black Pioneers: Asahel Bush: The Roots of Racism in Salem**

*Zachary Stocks, Executive Director, Oregon Black Pioneers*

One of Salem's icons, Asahel Bush, was also a known racist. Zachery Scott has a fascinating presentation about Bush, his past, and the little-known heroes from Salem's history. (This is a rescheduled program from December.)

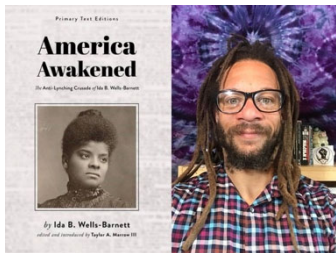
**January 16**



**Celebrating Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday**

We'll spend time listening to one of Dr. King's most famous speeches and discussing his legacy. If you are able, please come ready to share your favorite MLK quote. Led by Cesie Delve Scheuermann and Kim Martin.

**January 23**



**The Legacy of Ida B. Wells**

**Taylor Marrow, author** *America Awakened: The Anti-Lynching Crusade of Ida B. Wells-Barnett*, (2020).

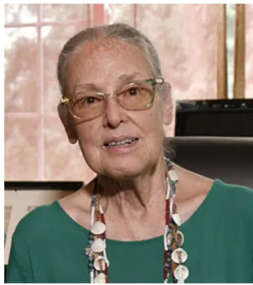
Born a slave in 1863, Wells-Barnett later became a teacher and gained notoriety as a journalist reporting on the lynching of Black men and women in the southern United States. Her unflinching criticism of racial violence made her the target of death threats, which further fueled her campaign of social justice. She helped found the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in 1909. Her groundbreaking activism laid the foundation for the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s. In 2020, she was posthumously awarded the Pulitzer Prize for her "outstanding and courageous reporting on the horrific and vicious violence against African Americans during the era of lynching."

Taylor Marrow III has taught history at Chemeketa Community College since 2004. He was born and raised in Princeton, New Jersey and holds a

B.A. from Indiana University where he majored in history and telecommunications and an M.A. from Ball State University in history with a focus on race relations. For five years, he served as the Chief Diversity and Equity Officer at Chemeketa.

Come and learn about the bravery of this amazing woman.

**January 30**

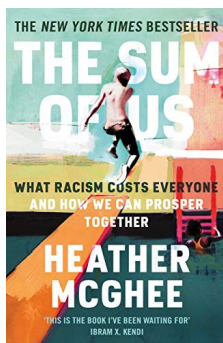


**Supporting Indigenous Youth for Leadership**  
Rose High Bear, Elderberry Wisdom Farm

Elderberry Wisdom Farm is a Native American nonprofit organization located in rural Marion County, Oregon. Elderberry Farm provides opportunities for Indigenous youth to strengthen their traditional ties with the land and to build career pathways in agriculture and horticulture, thereby deepening cultural identity and personal resiliency.

Rose High Bear is the founder and Executive Director. She was born and raised in a remote subarctic Athabascan village of McGrath on Alaska's Kuskokwim River. She founded Elderberry Wisdom Farm in 2019.

**February 6**



**Book Study, Part 1: *The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together* by Heather McGhee. Intro plus Chapters 1-5**

“[McGhee] takes readers on an intimate odyssey across our country’s racial divide to explore why some believe that progress for some comes at the expense of others. Along the way, McGhee speaks with white people who confide in her about losing jobs, homes, and hope, and considers white supremacy’s collateral victims. Ultimately, McGhee—a Black woman viewing multiracial America with startling empathy—finds proof of what she terms the Solidarity Dividend: the momentous benefits that derive when people come together across race. A powerful, singular, and prescriptive blend of the macro and the intimate.”—*O: The Oprah Magazine*

Led by class member, Glenda Melton.

**February 13**



### **Salem for Refugees**

Salem for Refugees provides numerous services for refugees from all over the world: reception and placement, extended case management, advocacy and awareness, cultural orientation, and direct assistance. Come and learn about the experience of being a refugee in the Salem area.

**February 20**

**February 27**

### **How and Why Systemic Racism Harms the Environment**

Patti Sloan, Chair, Earth Care Committee, First UMC

**March 6**

### **Learning from our Elders: Bruce Broussard**

A member of Salem First UMC, Bruce was born and raised in Lafayette, Louisiana where he learned to speak Creole/French from his parents and grandparents. He spent 20 years in the Air Force where he traveled around the world and where he was a Communications Operations Specialist. His lived experience is fascinating. Come and learn.

**March 13**



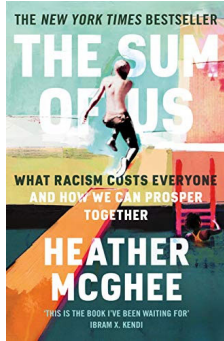
### **The Case for Reparations**

Alexandra Wilson, Black Resilience Fund Program Manager, Brown Hope (Portland, OR)

Reparations - a system of redress for egregious injustices – has been in the news for some time. Should there be reparations for Black Americans? If so, what might that look like? Come, learn, and engage in the discussion.

*Alexandra Wilson, MSW* is an anti-hunger advocate with a background in social work, program development, research and policy, adolescent health, community development, and drug and alcohol prevention. She is a first-generation college graduate and proud Chicagoan.

March 20



**Book Study, Part 2: *The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together* by Heather McGee. Chapters 6-10**

“One of the most fascinating things about *The Sum of Us* is how it challenges the assumptions of both white antiracism activists and progressives who just want to talk about class.”—The New York Times, “The Book That Should Change How Progressives Talk About Race”

Led by class member, Glenda Melton.